<u>IN THE CLAIMS:</u>

Please amend Claims 1, 3, 4, 11, 14, 16, 17, 24, and 27 as indicated below. The following is a complete listing of claims and replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in the present application.

Claim1 (currently amended): An information processing apparatus for demultiplexing and decoding a bitstream, which contains ~~one or~~ a plurality of ~~encoded~~ object data[[,]] and management information for managing <u>each of</u> the <u>plurality of</u> ~~encoded~~ object data, and reproducing ~~one or~~ a plurality of ~~decoded~~ object data, comprising:

extraction means for extracting, from the management information, time limit information which pertains to a time limit set for <u>each of</u> the ~~one or~~ plurality of object data; and

control means for controlling a reproduction process of <u>each of</u> the ~~one or~~ plurality of object data <u>based</u> on ~~the basis of~~ the time limit information.

Claim 2 (original): The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the bitstream is an MPEG-4 bitstream, and the management information is IPMP information appended to the bitstream.

Claim 3 (currently amended): The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein <u>said extraction means further extracts control information pertaining to</u> ~~the~~ ~~time limit information includes at least a time limit and~~ a control method of the

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reproduction process set for each of the plurality of object data and access point

information for performing the reproduction process set for each of the plurality of object

data when the time limit information is extracted, and

said control means further controls the reproduction process based on the

control information and access point information when the reproduction process of each of

the plurality of object data is controlled based on the time limit information.

Claim 4 (currently amended): The apparatus according to claim 3, wherein

said control means comprises acquisition means for acquiring time period information set

for each of the one or plurality of object data, and controls the reproduction process of each

of the one or plurality of object data in accordance with the time period information and the

time limit information.

Claim 5 (original): The apparatus according to claim 4, wherein the time

limit information is a total of browsing, display, or reproduction times since the first

browsing, display or reproduction time of contents of a bitstream of the object data.

Claim 6 (original): The apparatus according to claim 4, wherein the time

limit information is a predetermined time period since the first browsing, display or

reproduction time of contents of a bitstream of the object data.

Claim 7 (original): The apparatus according to claim 4, wherein the time

limit information is a specific time.

Claim 8 (original): The apparatus according to claim 4, wherein said acquisition means acquires a time as the time period information from a timepiece that provides a standard time via a network.

Claim 9 (original): The apparatus according to claim 4, wherein said acquisition means acquires a time as the time period information from an internal timepiece of an external computer which does not allow tampering.

Claim 10 (original): The apparatus according to claim 4, further comprising measurement means for measuring time, and wherein said acquisition means acquires the time from said measurement means.

Claim 11 (currently amended): The apparatus according to claim 4, wherein said control means checks based on the time period information and the time limit information if a time limit of object data of interest has expired, and controls at least one of input, decoding, and reproduction of the object data of interest in accordance with the control ~~method of the reproduction process~~ <u>information</u>, when the time limit has expired.

Claim 12 (original): The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said control means updates the time limit information in accordance with reproduction of the

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object data.

Claim 13 (original): The apparatus according to claim 12, wherein said control means updates the time limit information as new time limit information by counting an elapsed time during browsing, display or reproduction of the object data, and subtracting the counted elapsed time from the time limit information.

Claim 14 (currently amended): An information processing method for demultiplexing and decoding a bitstream, which contains one or a plurality of encoded object data, and management information for managing each of the plurality of encoded object data, and reproducing one or a plurality of decoded object data, comprising:

[[the]] an extraction step of extracting, from the management information, time limit information which pertains to a time limit set for each of the one or plurality of object data; and

[[the]] a control step of controlling a reproduction process of each of the one or plurality of object data based on the basis of the time limit information.

Claim 15 (original): The method according to claim 14, wherein the bitstream is an MPEG-4 bitstream, and the management information is IPMP information appended to the bitstream.

Claim 16 (currently amended): The method according to claim 14, wherein

the extraction step further extracts control information pertaining to ~~the time limit information includes at least a time limit and~~ a control method of the reproduction process set for each of the plurality of object data and access point information for performing the reproduction process set for each of the plurality of object data when the time limit information is extracted, and

the control step further controls the reproduction process based on the control information and access point information when the reproduction process of each of the plurality of object data is controlled based on the time limit information.

Claim 17 (currently amended): The method according to claim 16, wherein the control step comprises the acquisition step of acquiring time period information set for each of the ~~one or~~ plurality of object data, and controls the reproduction process of each of the ~~one or~~ plurality of object data in accordance with the time period information and the time limit information.

Claim 18 (original): The method according to claim 17, wherein the time limit information is a total of browsing, display or reproduction times since the first browsing, display, or reproduction time of contents of a bitstream of the object data.

Claim 19 (original): The method according to claim 17, wherein the time limit information is a predetermined time period since the first browsing, display or reproduction time of contents of a bitstream of the object data.

Claim 20 (original): The method according to claim 17, wherein the time limit information is a specific time.

Claim 21 (original): The method according to claim 17, wherein the acquisition step includes the step of acquiring a time as the time period information from a timepiece that provides a standard time via a network.

Claim 22 (original): The method according to claim 17, wherein the acquisition step includes the step of acquiring a time as the time period information from an internal timepiece of an external computer which does not allow tampering.

Claim 23 (original): The method according to claim 17, further comprising measurement step of measuring time, and wherein the acquisition step includes the step of acquiring the time from said measurement step.

Claim 24 (currently amended): The method according to claim 17, wherein the control step includes the step of checking based on the time period information and the time limit information if a time limit of object data of interest has expired, and controlling at least one of input, decoding, and reproduction of the object data of interest in accordance with the control ~~method of the reproduction process~~ <u>information</u>, when the time limit has expired.

Claim 25 (original): The method according to claim 14, wherein the control step includes the step of updating the time limit information in accordance with reproduction of the object data.

Claim 26 (original): The method according to claim 25, wherein the control step includes the step of updating the time limit information as new time limit information by counting an elapsed time during browsing, display, or reproduction of the object data, and subtracting the counted elapsed time from the time limit information.

Claim 27 (currently amended): A computer readable storage medium which stores a program code of an information processing method for demultiplexing and decoding a bitstream, which contains one or a plurality of encoded object data[[,]] and management information for managing each of the plurality of encoded object data, and reproducing one or a plurality of decoded object data, comprising:

a code of the extraction step of extracting, from the management information, time limit information which pertains to a time limit set for each of the one or plurality of object data; and

a code of the control step of controlling a reproduction process of each of the one or plurality of object data based on the basis of the time limit information.

Claim 28 (original): A program for implementing an information processing method, comprising the steps of:

inputting a bitstream which contains one or a plurality of encoded object

data, and management information for managing the object data;

demultiplexing the bitstream into object data;

extracting, from the management information, time limit information which

pertains to a time limit set for the one or plurality of object data; and

controlling a reproduction process of the demultiplexed object data on the

basis of the extracted time limit information.